

THE
AUSTRALIAN

U.F.O.

BULLETIN



V.U.F.O.R.S. OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT
JUDITH MAGEE

VICE-PRESIDENT & TREASURER
CLIVE YATES

SECRETARY
TONY COOK

PUBLIC RELATIONS &
INVESTIGATIONS
PAUL NORMAN

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
GARY WING

MINUTES SECRETARY
JOAN PRICE

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER
GEORGE SIMPSON

EDITORIAL STAFF
JUDITH MAGEE
PAUL NORMAN
TONY COOK

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES
NORTH EAST JAMES OWEN
MARY-LOU OWEN
GIPPSLAND WENDY WOLFE
SOUTH GIPPSLAND
JOHN THOMPSON
SOUTH EAST DAN HAYLOCK
MID-WEST YVONNE CHURCH
SUNRAISIA ALLAN WILSON
WESTERN JAMES KENNEDY
OUTER MELB. TANYA SMITH



WELCOME

The Society welcomes reports of unusual phenomena. These are evaluated on their own merits and if requested are kept in the strictest confidence.

The Society exchanges information with similar Australian and overseas organisations, as well as scientists, and disseminates to the public information on local, interstate and overseas developments in its quarterly publication, the "Australian U.F.O. Bulletin", which is posted to all members.

All communications should be addressed per the return address shown on the rear of this bulletin.

© COPYRIGHT

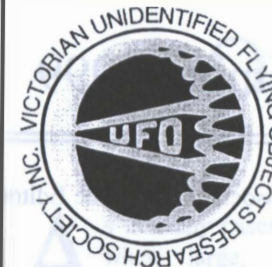
No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of V.U.F.O.R.S.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Contributions published do not necessarily reflect the policy of the V.U.F.O.R.S.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For details of your membership renewal, refer to the month/year coding on the address label of your latest bulletin. This indicates the last bulletin for which you are financial - we would appreciate your renewal by the date shown.



Victorian U.F.O. Research Society

P.O. Box 1043, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia
INCORPORATED 1988

Comments are welcome, address email to vufors@ozemail.com.au
VUFORS Web page at <http://www.ozemail.com.au/~vufors>

Print Post Approved
PP338968/0023

DECEMBER 1999

Contents

PAGE	ARTICLE
2	Editorial
3	On The UFO Trail
5	Did a huge UFO Crash in Kazakhstan in 1991
7	Strange case of Corporal Valdes
8	Comparison of two spectacular reports from Chile & China
12	Sighting Report - The Lagoa dos Patos Incident - Brazil
16-17	Press Cuttings
18	The Early Years
19	Book Review - Reaching for Reality
20	Book Review - Cosmic Voyage
21	Australian Sighting Reports
25	South East Representative - Wonthaggi - John Thompson
26	South Australian Reports
31	Society Page

We at VUFORS have, for many years, happily appreciated our association with the Editor of the English Flying Saucer Review.

When Paul Norman and I were overseas in 1976, we visited the U.K. and met with both Charles Bowen - who was editor at the time and also Gordon Creighton.

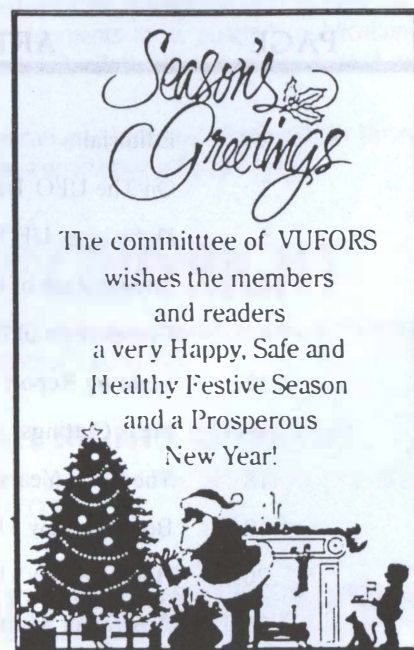
I have been a avid reader of F.S. Review since about 1958 when I joined this Society, and made that publication my reading material enroute, per train, to and from work and found it fascinating as did some "over the shoulder" readers.

We exchanged information and publications for quite some time with F.S. Review as we did with other organisations world wide and still do with quite a few, but unfortunately, many of these groups and /or publications appear to have become defunct.

Gordon Creighton is a brilliant linguist and I for one appreciate his translations and find it quite remarkable that he can still find the time and energy to still publish such a wonderfully informative and interesting Review. If you read F.S.R. you will realize there is ever so much more to U.F.O. research that "chasing lights in the sky" as one often does when a "rookie" to the scene. Investigation into reports requires experience in the subject - usually years - before people and reports can be properly assessed.

The subject now has a far wider and complicated front and has gone from what people possibly thought to be a light hearted dinner table subject for a giggle to a far more serious and scientific study, the dimensional aspect and a variety of experiments taking place around the world.

We would appreciate the cooperation of our country members whenever they see a sighting report in their local papers to please forward a copy to our Editorial staff or phone our answering service on 03 9506 7080. We will get back to you ASAP.



ON THE UFO TRAIL

Paul Norman © 1999

As in many cases during the past years, when large, usually long shaped objects have appeared in our skies, there are also disc shaped objects flying about. This has also occurred in Victorian skies coinciding with multiple sightings of a large oblong or cone shaped object, which on June 8th this year, flew across Victoria.

We have received at least two such reports of disc shaped objects since June 8. Witnesses have been close enough to see details, as well as noting sections of oblong shaped objects.

Other reports of lights in the sky could be discoid or cigar shaped, but unfortunately they are not close encounters, too far out to distinguish any details.

This type of UFO activity in the early 40's gave the best examples that some UFO's were performing under intelligent control and convinced pioneer researchers that someone, somewhere, has technology far beyond our own.

Veteran researcher, Richard Hall who was with NICAP, was compiling reports in his book titled; "The UFO Evidence" lists an early interesting case, which occurred during the summer of 1944. An artist witness reported seeing an oval "Parent Object" emit three smaller discs from the underside, which hovered, then moved away in different directions. Another case that occurred in the Autumn of 1951, was when a pilot flying from Birmingham, Alabama to Chattanooga,

Tennessee, observed a "Parent Object" where five smaller objects flew out of it, parallel to his plane. But when the pilot pressed the radio button to report the sighting, the UFO's disappeared quickly. On the 23rd July 1952, aircraft factory employees at Culver City, California, reported observing a silver elliptical object which moved NW over the city, stopped, launched two small discs which circled the area and went back on board. The "Parent Object" climbed straight up at high speed.

There have been many such cases reported world wide, by both civilian and military observers. Some earlier reports from Air Force pilots: August 10, 1944, Capt. Alvah M Reida, while on a

mission from Ceylon. It was shortly after midnight and there were 50 planes on the strike, his plane was the last one on the target, when the gunner and co-pilot reported a strange object pacing them. At a distance, it appeared as a spherical object of a very bright and intense red or orange color. When it left it made an abrupt 90-degree turn, up and accelerating. It disappeared into the overcast.

August 1 1946

Pilot Jack Puckett was making a scheduled flight from Langley Field, Virginia to Macdill Field, Tampa Florida. At approximately 6 pm, while flying a C-47 at 4,000 feet, North East of Tampa, he observed what he thought at first to be a shooting star. His co-pilot, Lt. Henry F. Class and engineer, both observed this object at

**"Someone, somewhere,
has technology far
beyond our own".**

On The UFO Trail

the same time. The object continued to fly toward them on a collision course at their exact altitude, it then veered to cross their path, where they could see it to be a long, cylindrical shape, twice the size of a B-29, with luminous portholes. It remained in sight for two or three minutes.

Summer of 1951

Lt. George Kinman was flying over Augusta, Georgia, one clear sunny day when all of a sudden he noticed something ahead closing in, head on. Before he could take evasive action, this thing dipped abruptly and passed underneath, just missing his propeller. The thing was definitely of disc shape, white and pretty thick. It was about twice as big as his plane. Lt. Kinman swung his F-51 around, but the disc was out of sight. Within 15 seconds, he said the disc came at him again, dipping at the last minute. This performance was repeated several times for a period of 5 to 10 minutes.

Triangular Satellite Formations

VUFORS has received some reports of formations of 3 unblinking, starlike objects travelling in triangular configuration.

This formation has an earthly explanation as described on UFOMIND recently.

In fact, there are three sets of three satellites travelling in formation - all part of the U.S. Navy's space-borne electronic intelligence system, code named Parcae, not officially recognised by the Navy.

Each group of satellites flies at an altitude of 1,100 kilometres in a formation about 100 kilometres across and are used to track the position, speed and direction of all military ships at sea.

<http://www.ufomind.com/>

Finally, on its last pass the UFO zoomed upwards instead of down just missing his canopy.

The report of another type of large object has now come to our attention. Both the report with description is published with the kind permission of Gordon Creighton, Editor of Flying Saucer Review. Disc shaped objects were reported to be operating with larger objects and details of this type of encounter are published in this edition.

I am sure that during a flap, when disc shaped objects are being reported, the odds would be that a large object is somewhere in the vicinity. If witnesses do observe this spectacle, please come forward and report it to the Society, as it is necessary for us to know the extent of activity to assess the overall picture. One never knows just how important the smallest piece of information may be in completing investigations.

Hubble in Trouble

The \$6 billion Hubble Space Telescope is scientifically useless after suffering a critical systems failure just weeks before it is due for an urgent in-orbit service call. Hubble has been placed into a "safe mode" after a gyroscope failure which left only two of its six gyroscopes operative. The telescope requires a minimum of three gyros to aim precisely.

Mars Climate Orbiter Lost

A failure to convert English measures into metric values seems to be the likely root cause of the loss of the Mars Climate Orbiter that smashed into the planet instead of orbiting, NASA has reported.

Officials have made 10 different recommendations to ensure that a similar problem is avoided with the Mars Polar Lander which is currently en route to Mars for a December 10 touchdown.

DID A HUGE UFO CRASH IN KAZAKHSTAN IN 1991?

By GORDON CREIGHTON.

(Translation from Spanish. G.C.) EVIDENCIA OVNI No. 17 (1998)

[We have received scraps of information about this alleged crash in the Republic of Kazakhstan (Central Asia) from several sources, but the only one that is seemingly complete is given in EVIDENCIA OVNI No. 17 (1998), although we are not told who is its author. We give a translation of it below. It certainly bears all the hallmarks of being entirely genuine, including a few handwritten annotations in Russian.]

On May 2, 1998, a confused story started to circulate on the Internet, to the effect that a large UFO had crashed in August or September 1991 in the territory of this former republic of the USSR, and that the Russian authorities of that time had either recovered the wreckage or attempted to recover it from its site in a mountainous district of south-eastern Kazakhstan.

This message was stated to have emanated from a Russian ufologist named Nikolai Subbotin, director of a group known as the Russian UFO Investigation Station (RUFORS in English), and was relaying a report sent straight from the site of the crash by another Russian scientist, Emil Bachurin.

According to Subbotin, Bachurin had been at the site along with a group of military officials and had included in his report a sketch of the craft made by himself, along with his own handwritten notes.

Bachurin said it was quite impossible to photograph or video the scene more closely than at a distance of 500 metres, owing to the intense radiation emanating from the crashed craft, clouding films and damaging equipment. Bachurin himself claimed that he had suffered damage to his eyesight and other people claimed that they had suffered skin-burns.

The sketch, reproduced herewith, shows a large tubular object lying on the ground and broken in half at the middle, which gives rise to the thought that the explosion might have been an "auto-destruct" operation. The mountains in the background are allegedly identifiable as the T'IENT-SHAN RANGE, the enormous chain running from south-

west to north-east along the entire frontier between Kazakhstan and neighbouring Kirghizstan as far as the West of China. On the side of the craft various symbols, of prominent size, were visible.

One RUFORS member, Grigor Jarikov, of St. Petersburg, claims that some parts of the text on Bachurin's sketch can be translated as follows:

"Title: The 'Zeppelin' on the T'IENT-SHAN."

"Natural Medium 'Sh.-Mazar' - 'The Throat of the East.'"

"It is impossible to take photographs. There are victims. The marks are green" (it is not clear what this means.)

"The size is 620 X 120 m." (Jarikov later confirmed again that the object was indeed 620 metres long and 120 metres in diameter - absolutely enormous.)

"The central part is split apart - probably by a 'self-liquidator' (auto-destruction mechanism)."

Among other annotations there are also these:

"All watches stopped completely at a distance of 600 metres from the object, and it was possible to note that there is an almost total absence of a magnetic field at that distance."

"There is a skid-track (also seen in the sketch, which seems to be evidence that when the object fell, it slithered along the ground)."

A few days after the first message, Jarikov added some important clarifications: The fall of the craft or object was, he said, not a recent event, although the public reports about it were recent. The crash had occurred around the end of August or beginning of September of 1991. The first group of military investigators had arrived there in August 1992.

They suffered severe radiation burns and were unable to approach to nearer than 500 metres from the object, said Jarikov. The attempts to photograph the craft resulted in only one over-exposure, all the rest of the films being blacked right out. Furthermore the video cameras were "burnt-out" and the video tapes were turned "glassy" and

brittle", disintegrating straight away inside the cameras.

Jarikov said that other recent visitors to the site had managed to see the remains of a military helicopter - identified as an *Mi-8* with coloured and painted camouflage.

Jarikov says that apparently this Russian helicopter had flown very close to the wreckage of the UFO and had been destroyed (the precise method of the destruction not being identified).

Jarikov also writes: "The skid-track of the craft along the ground is about 800 to 1,000 metres long, and is clearly visible... it must also be completely visible from Space.



UFOs on the Internet

By Tony Cook - VUFORS

Space News

Space Junk

The European Space Agency (ESA) reported the growing amount of space junk orbiting Earth is increasing the chances that satellites or spacecraft could be destroyed.

ESA noted "that there are about 8,000 pieces of trash at least 4 inches in diameter orbiting Earth, and 150,000 pieces that are at least a half-inch in size."

The craft's course was from due west to due east, flying on a very level trajectory. And, if we are not mistaken, its size really is 620m long and 120m wide".

Jarikov emphasised that the size of the craft and the big and evident skid-marks would have rendered it clearly visible to satellites. Because they have not been able to take photographs at ground level, he says, the Russian investigators were hoping that photographs taken from satellites could possibly eventually be released to the public and that this would finally confirm the whereabouts of the crash. ■

Leonid Meteor Shower

18th of November saw the passing of the 1999 Leonid Meteor shower.

In the Arabian desert, astronomers called it the most glorious display of a meteor storm in 33 years while other regions of the world had a more sedate show.

The global average peaked at 1,688 meteors per hour according to the NASA Marshall Space Flight Centre. This figure fell short of predictions but easily passed the 1,000 meteors per hour required to qualify as a storm.

The view from regions within Australia proved to be poor once again with the Northern Hemisphere proving to be the place to be.

I. THE STRANGE CASE OF CORPORAL VALDÉS. REPORT BY DANIEL GIRIBALDI.

[Translation from Spanish G.C.] from Argentinian newspaper CLARIN

(Buenos Aires) of Friday May 20, 1977]

(See *The Arica Encounter*, by Gordon Creighton, in FSR 23/5 (1978).

Einstein himself once stated that, if someone were to travel at the speed of light, he would arrive at his destination before he had started. Reality is lent to this sort of speculation when you hear of the recent case of the Chilean corporal who, after being abducted by a UFO, was returned fifteen minutes later to the spot where he had been. The supernatural part of this case is that during that short lapse of time his beard had grown as much as it would have done if he had not shaved for several days.

The affair, which has been reported to us by telegraph, took place in the early morning of April 25th in the Arica region, 2,130 kms. to the north of the Chilean capital Santiago. [It is in fact at the extreme northern tip of Chile's "ribbon-like" territory -G.C.] The man involved was Corporal Armando Valdés of the Chilean Army's Rancagua Regiment, which is based in the area.

The Corporal was in command of a patrol engaged on a routine inspection. As he subsequently declared (his statements were gathered by the Santiago daily papers and given world-wide dissemination) he had observed a powerfully bright beam of light at a distance of about 500m from the patrol, so he went off to investigate. He then re-appeared among his men without their being aware of his presence, and what caught their attention instantly was the fact that he had suddenly grown a beard. Then, almost immediately after that, he fell to the ground.

"the fifteen minutes that the corporal was missing!"

The case has become known far beyond the mere limits of the jurisdiction of a military unit stationed far away from the nation's capital.

The Chilean Minister of Defence announced: "This entire affair is being investigated in the minutest details"

unconscious, and when he recovered his senses he was unable to remember anything of what had happened to him during the past fifteen minutes that he had been absent.

Had he been kidnapped aboard the UFO?... According to later reports the corporal is not only not retracting his statements but says: "Even at the risk that you may think I'm crazy I want to submit myself for hypnotic treatment that might enable me to reconstruct what it was that I experienced during those fifteen minutes". And, furthermore, he called upon his fellow-soldiers of his patrol to testify on his behalf.

His superior officers and also the men under him all agree that Valdés had shaved quite correctly and completely that previous morning, as per the regulations in force, before setting out on the patrol as ordered." [Chile is not one of the "slapdash" South American Republics. It is very "military", and very smart! -G.C.]

Another important and inexplicable thing is the matter of the corporal's watch. As one of the senior officers of Valdés's regiment told the journalists, "his watch is of a type that has the days of the week marked on it. When the corporal fainted and the watch was removed from his left wrist, it was instantly noted that it had stopped at 4:30, the precise time when the phenomenon had appeared, and the calendar had gone forward five days in

Furthermore, prestigious individuals, including Professor Pedro Arandea, have interviewed Valdés, have made tape-recordings of his statements, and are now analyzing them with the utmost scientific rigor and also examining the testimony given by the soldiers who were members of the patrol group.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION (FOR FOUR ISSUES PER YEAR, POST-FREE)

UNITED KINGDOM: £15.00 (Single copies £4.00 each)

ALL OTHER COUNTRIES (INCLUDING USA): £18.00 OR \$25.00

(Single copies £5.00 OR \$US 9.00) All post free.

(US dollars payable in New York. We cannot accept US dollar cheques drawn on foreign banks outside the USA)

Overseas airmail extra: -US\$ 10.00 A (all other countries £6.00)

For a complete list of countries that this is now possible

*** Please send your remittance to: 35-DIT-ARD through our agents ***

See our Web Site at: <http://www.corpex.com/users/archmage/fsr/fsrhome.htm>

OVERSEAS SUBSCRIBERS SHOULD REMIT BY CHEQUE DRAWN IN STERLING ON A BANK IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, OR BY CHEQUE IN US DOLLARS DRAWN IN THE USA ONLY, OR BY INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER IN STERLING. IF REMITTING BY GIRO THEN FSR'S ACCOUNT NUMBER IS 3563251.

All mail, editorial matter and subscriptions should be addressed to The Editor, FSR Publications Ltd, P.O. Box 162, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP13 5DZ, England. Alternatively you can e-mail us at fsr@hotmail.com or telephone the Editor on 01923-779018

ESTABLISHED
1955.

© Flying Saucer Review. Library of Congress
copyright, FSR Publications Ltd, 1981.
Contributions appearing in this magazine do not
necessarily reflect its policy and are published without
prejudice.

II. COMPARISON OF TWO SPECTACULAR REPORTS FROM CHILE AND CHINA.

By Gordon Creighton.

(See original articles by G.C. in FSR 29/6 (1964) and FSR 38/4 (1993).

"Old Hlands" who were reading FSR 30 -and more- years ago, will recall the veritable steady flood of UFO reports that we were constantly receiving from two splendid Correspondents in Argentina and several others covering Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Paraguay, and the entire region of the Andean Cordillera in general.

The Falklands War inevitably cut us off from one of our most valued Consultant/Correspondents, the lawyer Dr. Oscar Galindez of Córdoba, Argentina, and for years after the end of that conflict we never heard a word from him or indeed expected to do so! Then suddenly, about 1990 or 1991, we received a letter from him about "matters ufological", and so we had high hopes of renewing our old relationship. But silence again descended upon our trusty and doughty old friend and we have no idea what has happened. What is known, however, is that Oscar A. Galindez is now an Argentinian Provincial Judge, and we

take this opportunity to express to him our felicitations. We trust that all still goes well with him, and as always, we send him *un fuerte abrazo*. He is not forgotten here!

Our other long-standing and equally valiant Consultant/Correspondent for FSR in Argentina was Jane Thomas, then of Buenos Aires, whose press reports and translations also were gathered up by her from all the other Spanish speaking Republics. Jane (of French and German descent and totally fluent in at least four languages) is of course still on our Masthead for she is now Mrs. Maria Angela Thomas Guma and lives with her American husband Harold Guma in Arizona, USA, whence she still reports for us on the South American scene.

Her press reports from the various Republics still trickle in, and we published the last one in FSR 42/4 (Winter 1997).

(As for the last batch of Spanish-American UFO press reports sent to us by Jane before that, it is our sad duty to

record that it never saw the light of day in FSR, for Mitzi Trollop, the erstwhile Senior Resident FSR Cat, tipped an entire pot of glue on the Report, which, we recall was a huge one. We did our best to salvage some of it, but all in vain. (Meanwhile Mitzi Trollop has died, of sheer old age, and travelled on to the Great Cattery In The Sky - where we trust that the cosmic mice are abundant -and her little earthly remains lie with those of our other cats and dogs beneath the splendid hanging catkins of a fine Garrya tree at the end of our garden.)

The volume of material reaching us from all parts today is so great that much of it still lies unused in our files. Here for example is an interesting press-report from the town of Arica in the far northern tip of Chile.

It dates from 1990 and was sent to us by one of our Spanish Consultants, Señor J. Plana Crivillen of Barcelona, whom we now thank belatedly. Our older readers will recall that the Arica region used to crop up persistently in our earliest reports from South America, so evidently things have not changed much.

UFOs were sighted a week ago over the town of Arica in Chile. (In the far North, 2130 kms. from the Chilean Capital, Santiago de Chile).

These objects are seen here very frequently, and, in the opinion of the local inhabitants, they testify to the existence of a UFO base somewhere among the mountain systems of the country.

On this occasion, a week ago, two UFOs were observed. The eyewitnesses, when interrogated later, made it clear that they felt that indubitably they had seen two extraterrestrial craft. They said that no machines made on Earth could have been capable of the manoeuvres that these two UFOs were performing in the skies overhead!

The most spectacular and most widely known UFO case in Chile occurred on April 25, 1977, when it seems that Armando Valdés, a Chilean Army sergeant (N.B. In Spanish the term cabo is employed for both sergeant and corporal. -G.C.), was kidnapped near Putre by a UFO for "fifteen minutes of terrestrial time", but other features of the case, as well as his watch, showed that he had been absent for five days. The authorities refused to make any investigation of the case at the time.

NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR:

As I am sure it will interest many of our younger or newer readers, I reproduce below my original article about the vanishing Chilean sergeant, which we published in FSR Volume 23, No. 5 (February 1978).

Likewise, because of its great similarity and highly interesting nature, I am also republishing below the relevant part of my translation of the Chinese book "Feidie Bai Wen Bai Da" (Questions And Answers About UFOs), published in Hongkong in 1983 by our Chinese Consultant Mr. Paul Dong (Liu Wen-Wei). I published my English translation of this in FSR Volume 29, No. 6 (August 1984).

As will be noted, the Chinese extract in question relates two cases from China that also seem to involve "time-distortion", or "extensive time-lapse", or however one might attempt to define these strange occurrences.

The second Chinese case, amazingly like the case of the Chilean sergeant, occurred in 1975 (two years earlier). I am sorry to say that, as usually happens, we have never heard any more about this case of the Chinese soldier who was reportedly picked up by a UFO in Jian-Shui County of Yunnan Province (far South of China) in 1975. Mr. Paul Dong told us he was seeking further verification of it, but we have not yet heard whether he was successful. -G.C.

THE "ARICA CASE" OF THE CHILEAN SOLDIER WHO "WENT INTO THE FOURTH DIMENSION" AND "AGED BY FIVE DAYS" IN FIFTEEN MINUTES! BY GORDON CREIGHTON.

(Translations from Spanish, Chinese and German, G.C.)

[Founded in 1955 on a capital of only £100, *Flying Saucer Review* has now battled on for 43 years, poor, unable to pay for any advertising, and consequently unable to reach a wide audience owing to the deliberate blanket ban imposed upon FSR and upon myself throughout the whole of the British media for the last sixteen years.

Our staunch readers should realize that such a ban is potentially a very great tribute to us, for it shows that somebody knows only too well that we have, throughout been telling the truth or as near to the truth as we could get!

With no office premises, no proper filing system, and a total of only five pairs of hands at the most -as today (and generally over the 43 years it has been only two pairs!) we have led this precarious existence and endured the heat of the day and borne the brunt of organized ridicule that has been concocted in official and authoritative levels

and poured out upon us through the British media. (One of these days I will publish the names of a few of the "big shots" in the paranormal field who have publicly scorned and ridiculed us but who all along have been studying the UFO scene and have had their plans to destroy us and take our place when the "appropriate moment" comes.)

Given this lack of clout and of facilities, the idea of checking, at the source, all the reports that have been coming to us from every part of the world would be utterly ridiculous, and readers with any commonsense will realize this. Nevertheless we do try to the extent of our so pitiful resources, to "follow up" and keep contact with such cases as we can, and the series of documents which I now give below about a Chilean soldier's extraordinary experience in 1977 illustrates one happening in which, at any rate, we can claim an unusual piece of success in "follow-up". G.C.]

THE ARICA ENCOUNTER: CHILEAN SOLDIER'S "TRIP INTO THE FOURTH DIMENSION"

According to reports published in the press of Argentina and Chile, it appears that the first half of 1977 has been notable for a remarkable recrudescence of UFO sightings over the southern part of the West Coast of South America, and one newspaper (*La Crónica*, Buenos Aires, May 23, 1977) noted that in fact June 1977 would see the thirtieth anniversary of the first UFO sightings over that particular continent.

Our Buenos Aires correspondent, Miss Jane Thomas (to whom I am vastly indebted not only for many pages of press extracts, but also for English translations of them, which render the job of reduction and compilation far lighter and save me a great deal of time and effort) seems to feel a certain degree of doubt as to whether things "got going" in South America quite as soon as June 1947.

At first sight it seems likely that one might feel surprise and scepticism on that score, probably because so many folks imagine that June 1947 saw the start of the whole "UFO business" in the world (in the shape of the two American cases of Maury Island on June 21, and the Arnold sighting on June 24.) However, many people also realise that such a view is quite incorrect. The U.S. Air Force had already had plenty of UFO reports from their own territory and also from overseas during 1946 and the first half of 1947.

Leaving aside previous centuries, throughout the whole of World War II there had been a trickle of reports (not to mention the many wartime sightings of the smaller *foo fighters*), and there had already been the big UFO flap over Scandinavia in 1946 with the sightings of the *ghost rockets* as these were termed at the time in the Scandinavian and British press.

So it may very well be true that the UFO phenomenon was also well under way in South America by the summer of 1947, and on checking my files I see indeed that José Higgins' (ref. 1) alleged encounter with some lumbering great creatures from a landed disc at Baurú, Brazil, dates from July 23 of that year -only twenty-nine days after Kenneth Arnold's sighting.

The extraordinary affair which is the subject of the present report took place in the early hours of April 25, 1977, near Putre (Arica region) in the northern tip of Chile, some 2,130 kilometres from the Capital, Santiago.

Corporal Amando Valdés of the local Rancagua Regiment of the Chilean Army (this unit comes under the Huamachuco Brigade based at Arica) was out on a routine night inspection patrol with seven soldiers in the Andes,

at a spot near Pampa Lluscuma, 150 kilometres north-east of Arica. Anyone who has experienced or read about this harsh, arid part of the globe can imagine for himself just how chilly it would be at such a place on the bleak *puno* lands, at 4,000 o'clock in the morning and at an altitude of not less than 4,000 metres. The seven conscript soldiers with Valdés were named in the press as Humberto Rojas, Iván Robles, Germán Riquelmo, Raúl Salinas, Pedro Rosales, Juan Reyes, and Julio Rato. Five of them were huddled against a *pirca* (dry-stone wall) beside the fire. The other two men were on watch, a few metres distant.

At about 4.00 a.m. Rosales, who was one of the sentries, came running over to report the appearance of two large violet-coloured lights which had descended from the sky, and one of them was still in sight, about 500 metres from them, very low, and bathing the whole area in its vivid glow.

This light seemingly began to make for the party, so the corporal ordered his men to screen off the fire with blankets, presumably with the thought of avoiding detection. The great light was totally silent, and they could now see that it had "two red dots" on each side. After moving nearer to them, it began to move away again.

At this point corporal Valdés got up and decided to go forward and investigate the light. He looked at his watch. It showed 4.15 a.m. As he explained later to the press, he stepped over the dry-stone wall and, calling upon God for protection, started walking towards the light, shouting as loudly as he could, challenging it, asking who or what it was, and bidding it depart. He was still only a matter of a few metres from the camp fire and his men, all of whom were watching him. And then he simply vanished before their eyes.

Corporal Valdés recalls nothing of what happened to him after that. He only knows that at about 4.30 a.m. he became aware that he was lying beside the fire again, but feeling very, very strange. Then he blacked out once more.

THE MYSTERY OF THE CORPORAL'S BEARD AND WRIST-WATCH.

When the corporal came to his senses again after his second black-out, he was still totally incapable of giving any account of what had happened. He seems to have spent about fifteen minutes away from the men. As the men have testified, and his superior officers have corroborated, Corporal Valdés had shaved but a short while before going out on the night patrol. His appearance was as it should be, and everything about him was in order.

He now had a beard which was the equivalent of five days' growth. (As Valdés himself emphasised later when talking to the newspapermen, this was all the more incredible inasmuch as beards grow abnormally slowly up there on the high Andean plateaux.)

It was about 7.00 a.m. when the corporal came out of his second swoon. He promptly gave orders for the party to return to their unit to report on the events of the night.

And now came the second discovery. Not only had his wrist-watch stopped showing 4.30, the time of his experience with the light, but the calendar date indicator now showed not April 25 but April 30. It had advanced by five days.

Soon after leaving the scene of these events, Corporal Valdés and all his men were interviewed by a local gentleman, Professor Pedro Araneda, who seems to have been very knowledgeable on the subject of UFOs, and took the precaution of tape-recording his interviews with the corporal and his men.

This is fortunate, because as soon as the patrol were back at their base and had reported the affair officially, Colonel Oscar Figueroa, Governor of Arica Province, at once issued an edict prohibiting the publication of anything about the case in the local papers unless it had been submitted to his office for scrutiny. This action, the Governor explained, was taken "in order to avoid press speculations lacking a scientific basis."

Governor Figueroa also confiscated Professor Araneda's tape of the interviews with the corporal and his men, but this did not prevent the story leaking out into the press very rapidly, as the Professor had already managed to distribute parts of it to newsmen. (The first paper that got the story, *La Estrella*, published in Arica, was forced by the Governor to withdraw the whole transcript of what the corporal and his men had said.)

Meanwhile, away down south in Santiago, the Capital, a spokesman from the Chilean Ministry of Defence announced that the affair was being investigated intensively. Gradually the story penetrated the whole press of Chile and Argentina, and created a sensation. All the attempts to hush it up had failed.

THE MESSAGE.

According to the soldiers of the patrol, there was however yet one more astonishing thing to relate. When Corporal Valdés suddenly reappeared among them - neither he nor they were able to explain quite how - he was murmuring over and over again and with difficulty the words "You don't know who we are, nor where we come from... we will soon return."

In a statement given subsequently to the press by Corporal Valdés, he emphasised that he was most anxious to have the affair fully investigated. He told newsmen: "The events which I have related lay me open to being taken for mad. But I am not mad. And the soldiers who were there with me also witnessed the apparition. I want to recover the memory of those missing fifteen minutes, and I would even be prepared to submit myself to hypnosis in order to ascertain the facts and clear my mind of the uncertainty as to what took place."

However, on April 21, it was announced in the Argentine press (*La Crónica*, Buenos Aires) that a Chilean UFO investigation group at Temuco (2) had warned Corporal Valdés that it would be extremely dangerous for him to retrieve the details of his UFO experience by means of hypnosis, and in support of their argument they quoted the sad case of the young Argentinian truck driver (Dionisio Llanca) who had had an encounter with entities and had also been hypnotised, in the hospital at Bahía Blanca, by an investigation team of twelve doctors and psychiatrists, and who was now completely insane.

There have been records of this sort of thing in past times in Old China. Thus, for example, in the County Annals of Song-Zi Xian (Vol. 19, Miscellaneous), in Hubei Province, for the year 1880, it is on record that "a certain Mr. Ju Tan, a farmer of Xi-an, arose early on the morning of May 8, 1880, and was walking along towards a copse on the hill behind his cottage, when he caught sight, in the undergrowth, of a strange glowing object, shining brightly in many colours. He stepped forward and attempted to seize hold of it, and suddenly felt himself swept up into the air, as though beyond the clouds, with a loud sound of wind in his ears, his mind stupefied and numbed, and quite unable to move his body. Then suddenly he was conscious of dropping from a great height, but on to a lofty mountain-peak.

"Feeling as though he was awakening from a dream, the farmer was terrified beyond measure. Some time later a woodcutter came along and questioned him as to who he was and where from, and Ju Tan replied "I am from Song-Zi County in Hubei Province." The woodcutter

exclaimed: "How did you get here! This is in Guizhou

Province, more than a thousand li (= 500 kms. -G.C.) from your place."

"The woodcutter showed him the shortest path down the mountain. Ju Tan arrived in due course at his home, and found that 18 days had elapsed. After much enquiry, it was still

impossible to know what had caused his experience. It was just an extraordinary mystery."

(N.B. This case greatly resembles the many that I have translated over recent years, particularly from Brazil. And there is even a notable similarity in the way in which the victim is set down, for many of the Brazilian victims are also reported to have recovered consciousness and found themselves perched on top of quite inaccessible high places and mountain peaks. -G.C.)

On April 25, 1977, the Chilean Border Patrol soldier Wa-Er-Der-Si (Armando Valdes) vanished without trace for 15 minutes on encountering a flying saucer, and subsequently reappeared with 3cms growth of beard and the calendar-watch on his wrist showing that five days had elapsed. There are similar cases in China.

According to Mr. Zhang Ke-Tao of the Peking branch of the Chinese UFO Research Society, the following is an example. I report it as it comes (unverified):-

"One evening in the autumn of 1975, two soldiers of a certain unit of the Chinese People's Liberation Army stationed in Jian-Shui County in the Province of Yün-Nan encountered a huge saucer-shaped flying object that was circling around above their heads and emitting beams of soft orange-coloured light. One of the men at once ran into the camp to give the alarm, while the other stayed there to watch it.

A few minutes later, when the Camp Commandant with about a dozen armed men came running up to the entrance to the Barracks, they found no trace of the soldier who had remained behind. The Commandant at once ordered that a general search be made by all personnel, officers and enlisted men, but there was no sign of him.

A few hours later, four soldiers, taking over sentry duty, suddenly heard the sound of someone moaning behind them, and, looking around, found that it was the missing man, who in miraculous fashion had reappeared. They at once perceived that his eyebrows, beard, and hair, had grown extremely long. When he had fully recovered consciousness it was found that his memory was totally gone. His wristwatch showed that it had stopped long ago. It was not a watch of the type indicating the date, so it was not possible to establish how many 'days of a different time' he had spent 'elsewhere'. His weapons and watch all were found to be slightly magnetized.

TAILPIECE BY EDITOR, FSR:

A highly placed British legal official who is well-known at FSR and who is himself a long-standing student of all aspects of "our subject", informed me, this year, that, when visiting the Far East recently on legal business, he had occasion to meet some officers of the Red Chinese "KGB".

These gentlemen related to him the recent case of a Chinese man who had been kidnapped by a UFO and never seen again. They regarded the report as genuine and highly alarming. ■

UFO

Sighting Report

The Lagoa dos Patos Incident Brazil - November, 1996

by Michael Wismierski

I don't know what the percentage is of pilots, worldwide, who have seen or encountered a UFO but I imagine that the number may be quite high. I say this, because out of the five pilots that I personally know (*two are commercial pilots, one from the United States and the other from Brazil, two are Air Force pilots, a retired one from the United States and one who is on active duty in Brazil, and a private pilot in Brazil*), three of them have had a U F O sighting/encounter.

Interestingly, the two pilots who have never had a UFO sighting/encounter knew of other pilots who did. And what may be even more interesting is that, the two pilots without a UFO sighting/encounter believed the stories of other pilots who had had such an experience, but were rather skeptical when they heard about UFO reports from the general public. And the reason for their skepticism is quite easy to understand, every day people, in general, are just not very familiar with what they are looking at in the sky.

They are constantly mistaking aircraft, satellites, space junk, and planets for UFOs. According to the Brazilian publication *Fenomenos Aeroespaciais* (Aerospatial Phenomena) (September/October 1996), published by the Brazilian Academy of Parasciences, there are literally thousands of man-made objects in orbit around our planet. I have personally seen how easily a person can mistake a satellite *, flying high above the earth, as an extraterrestrial/alien craft.

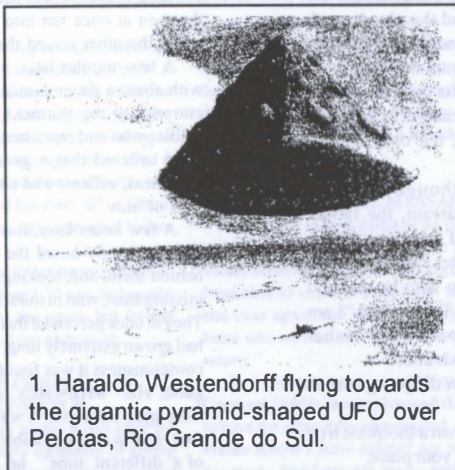
Now, as those of us who research the UFO phenomena know, finding a credible witness to a UFO sighting/encounter is not always easy. But pilots, overall, make excellent witnesses to a UFO

sighting/encounter. They are, in general, well educated, psychologically well balanced (think about that the next time you're flying on a plane), quite knowledgeable about aircraft performance (they know what it can and cannot do), excellent observers (they know what they are looking at), are very familiar with the heavens, and a great number of them have military flying experience. As a matter of fact, the more flying experience a pilot has, the more credible his/her testimony is concerning a UFO sighting/encounter.

People know that when an experienced pilot says he's seen a UFO he's really seen a UFO. Pilots, and believe me when I say this, do not like to go out on a limb by telling people they have had an experience with a UFO, as it may possibly lead to labeling (they're crazy), ridicule, loss of employment, etc., unless, quite rightly, they are absolutely certain that their

experience has no other explanation. So, when a pilot tells me he's had an experience with a UFO, I sit up and listen, which leads me to Haroldo Westendorff's story.

Haroldo Westendorff was born in Brazil in 1958. By the time he turned 19 (1977), he had received his pilots license and was airborne in the skies of Brazil. Today, 20 years later, besides being the owner of a rice processing plant in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, he is the bi-champion of airplane acrobatics in Brazil. It is customary for him to fly his single engine EMB 712 plane Tupi - 1980) around the state of Rio Grande do Sul on weekends, usually for pleasure. He is, without a doubt, a very experienced pilot. But in all his years of flying experience he had never seen or had an



1. Haroldo Westendorff flying towards the gigantic pyramid-shaped UFO over Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul.

The Lagoa dos Patos Incident

encounter with a UFO, that is, until October 5, 1996.

It was on that cloudy day that Haroldo Westendorff took off at 9:00 AM from the airport in Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul. Not long afterwards, he was flying over Clube de Cage a Pesca (the Hunting and Fishing Club) and soon after that he began to head towards Praia do Laranjal (Laranjal Beach), which is situated on the outskirts of Lagoa dos Patos (Duck Lake). At about 10:30 AM he decided to return to the airport at Pelotas. He was flying at an altitude of 5,500 feet (1,800 meters) when he looked off to his left and saw something very strange in the sky. A huge pyramid-shaped UFO.

Westendorff was stunned and he couldn't believe what he was seeing. According to the aviator, the otherworldly craft was turning slowly on its own axis, soundless, without emitting any smoke. He immediately began to fly in the direction that the craft was moving - East, towards the Atlantic Ocean at about 100 km/h (62 mi/h) -- to get a more detailed look at it. As he closed in on the object, he described it by saying, "*It was enormous, gigantic really. It was shaped like a pyramid and had eight sides, each one of them had exactly three prominent bulges which constituted the windows*".. (see illustrations 1, 2 and 3)

When Westendorff described the object as being "enormous" and "gigantic", he wasn't joking. He estimated that the base of the object was about 100 meters (328.1 feet or 109.36 yards) in diameter, comparing its size to a football stadium, and its height to be between 50 to 60 meters (164.05 to 196.86 feet), which is the wing span of a Boeing 747. This was definitely no man-made object.

The pilots next move, was to radio the control tower at the Pelotas airport to discover if they were aware of the huge UFO.

Airton Mendes da Silva was on duty in the air traffic control tower of the Pelotas Airport when

Haroldo Westendorff radioed in the UFO sighting. He grabbed the binoculars and quickly made visual contact with the strange looking craft, confirming the pilots sighting. He then called the objects attention to two other people in the tower, and they too confirmed the sighting. Airton described the craft by saying, "*... the object was triangular in shape and the top of it was rounded.*"

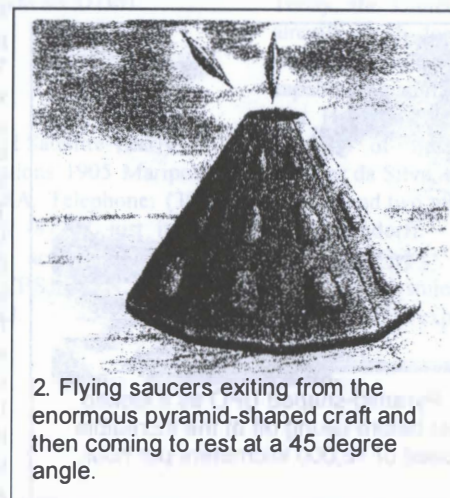
After Haroldo received a positive response on the sighting from the air traffic controller at the Pelotas Airport, he radioed the radar station in Curitiba, which is operated by Cindacta, the Brazilian entity that monitors the air space over Brazil, to describe the sighting and to provide them with a signal to confirm his position/coordinates.

The radar control center in Curitiba reaffirmed that the aviator was flying at a distance of 35 miles from the eastern sector of Pelotas and that there were no other planes or any other flying objects within a 200 kilometer radius of his position.*** Haroldo then asked the radar

control center for permission to switch him over to a special radio frequency so that he could give them a better description of the sighting, but his request was denied. He then made the incredible decision to fly, around the huge pyramid shaped craft, which, quite possibly, is something only an airplane acrobatic champion would even think of doing.

As Westendorff began to maneuver around the huge UFO, his cellular telephone began ringing. It was a friend calling. "*Gu... Gu... Guess what I'm flying around?*" Haroldo euphorically asked his friend in his usual stuttering manner. And before his friend had a chance to answer him the pilot said, "*It's a flying saucer!*"

Not exactly your every day telephone conversation! After speaking with his friend, the aviator's telephone rang again, only this time it was his son, Haroldo Junior, who quickly noticed that his father



2. Flying saucers exiting from the enormous pyramid-shaped craft and then coming to rest at a 45 degree angle.

The Lagoa dos Patos Incident

had difficulty in expressing himself during their conversation. The aviator's speech problem was due to the mixture of fear and excitement coursing through his body. The boy immediately handed the telephone over to his mother. "What is it that you have?" asked his worried wife. Haroldo then gave her a quick picture of what he had encountered. His wife, whose mind was now overwhelmed by this incredible image that her husband had flying before him, prudently told him to be very, very careful. The pilot then decided to make a second trip around the immense UFO.

As Haroldo made his way around the enormous ship, the whole strange incident got a whole lot stranger. The dome on top of the pyramid-shaped craft opened. "I was circling the base of it when I noticed that the dome opened. I don't know how, but I imagine that it must have retracted," recounted the pilot. Haroldo's heart began to race. Suddenly, a saucer-shaped craft, about three times the size of the aviator's airplane, exited from the gigantic ship.

The pilot watched in amazement as the saucer rose vertically, without making a sound. A moment later, the disc-shaped craft came to rest at a 45 degree angle. and then it took off at an astronomical speed towards the Atlantic ocean.

Three or four seconds later the enormous mothership started emanating reddish beams of light that could be felt as waves of heat. The aviator then began his third and final trip around the UFO. This time circling the top of it to see what was inside the ship. It would also prove to be the most dangerous flight around the enormous pyramid shaped craft.

Haroldo was flying about forty meters away from the huge craft when he realized that it was beginning to spin. Suddenly, the ship started to spin faster and faster and faster. "At this moment I began to panic. I thought I was going to die. I was

just waiting for the explosion that would certainly destroy my plane," said Westendorff. But the pilot kept his presence of mind and began emergency procedures, all the while thinking about the immense blast of air that would be produced, arising from the vacuum caused by the gigantic UFO.

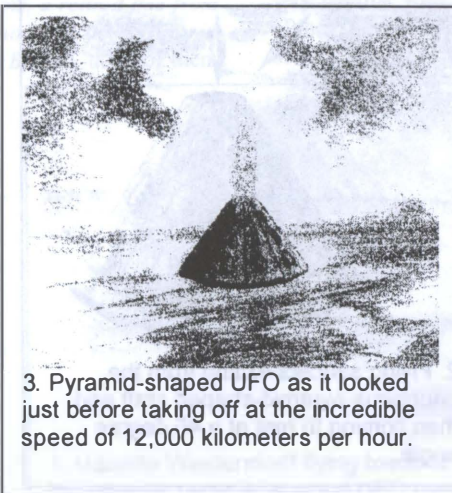
The enormous craft was now spinning at an incredibly frightening speed, looking like it would explode at any second, and then, suddenly, without making any noise, it took off at the unbelievable speed of 12,000 kilometers per hour.

Westendorff and his plane were unaffected by the exit of the enormous ship. He couldn't believe he was alive and that his plane was intact. The explosion he was waiting for never happened. Out of curiosity, the pilot took his plane up to 9,000 feet, passing through a layer of dense clouds to see if he could find any traces of the UFO or the flying saucer. As there was no sign of either of them, he flew back to the airport in Pelotas.

After Haroldo's arrival at the airport, the aviator looked up a friend of his who is an artist, and asked him to make some sketches of the enormous UFO and the saucer that exited from it, which he gladly did. "The drawings came out so perfectly that I will save them forever," declared the aviator.

Haroldo's 30 minute encounter with the gigantic UFO left him with this to say, "I'm certain that what I saw had nothing to do with this planet." And for anyone who doubts that Westendorff's story is true, the pilot said, "I know what I saw, because I was 40 meters away from that object. No one can get me to deny it."

Michael Wymierski
January 20, 1997 ****



3. Pyramid-shaped UFO as it looked just before taking off at the incredible speed of 12,000 kilometers per hour.

The Lagoa dos Patos Incident

Look for further information on the Lagoa dos Patos incident in future issues of The Brazilian UFO Report.

All information concerning The Lagoa dos Patos Incident was provided by the Brazilian research organization Grupo de Pesquisas Científico-Ufologicas (GPCU).

GPCU

Rue Barao de Azevedo Machado no 51/301

Phone/fax: (0532) 25 - 1562

CEP 96020-150

Pelotas, RS - Brazil

* According to the 1993 World Satellite Yearly, Dr. Frank Baylin (Baylin Publications 1905 Mariposa, Boulder, Colorado, 80302, USA, Telephone: (303) 449 - 4551, FAX: (303) 939 - 8720), just in the category of satellites with active audio/video programming (CNN, ABC, CBS, ESPN, etc), 93 were orbiting the Earth in 1993.

UFOs on the Internet - continued

Thousands watch UFO over Papua New Guinea

Reported by the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier newspaper, November the 4th was the date of a sighting by thousands in the New Britain and New Ireland provinces of Papua New Guinea.

Described by many: "It was about 200 metres long, 50 metres wide and was lit up like a city in the sky. It moved very slowly across the sky, making a quiet puffing noise."

According to Newsweek (March 13, 1995), page 52 (Society & Arts) 7,700 objects were orbiting the Earth in 1995.

** Although Haroldo Westendorff called them windows, he never made any mention of being able to see through them.

*** Just because the huge UFO did not show up on the radar of Cindacta does not mean it wasn't there. Today, the United States government has stealth aircraft which does not appear on radar. So, just what an alien/extraterrestrial civilization might be capable of manufacturing. Besides, the fact remains that Haroldo Westendorff was not alone in his sighting of the pyramid-shaped craft. Airton Mendes da Silva, the air traffic controller at Pelotas airport, and two other people confirmed the sighting by Westendorff.

**** Mr. Wymierski is currently writing a book about the UFO experience in Brazil.

People in the remote Bainingo ranges say the craft, "which had huge lumps on the sides with light flickering around it, was lit up all round like a red hot stone in an oven pit."

A Police Officer, Raymond Theodore, sitting at his home along Vuvu Beach, North Coast of Rabaul at 8:30pm noticed the craft above the sea.

"First I thought it was a ship but then we saw it travel over Waton Island."

"It had very bright lights at the back as it moved along, but it made no sound."

<http://www.postcourier.com.pg>

UFO again?

There have been more reports of a 'strange, flashing blue light', following a local woman's possible UFO sighting in the Wonthaggi-Inverloch ea.

Last week Michelle Brown, of Inverloch, told the Sentinel-Times she believed she had sighted an unidentified flying object, twice, in recent weeks.

The blue light, seen along the Wonthaggi-Inverloch road at night, was also witnessed by three of her friends.

This week a Wonthaggi woman, who does not wish to be named, called the Sentinel-Times to say she had also seen an unusual light from her Wonthaggi home.

The 35-year-old mother admits she was a sceptic, before sighting the bright blue light, outside her Fahey street home one night.

The woman says she sighted the light high above the Wonthaggi water tower about a month ago.

"I saw a bright blue flashing light ... about the size of a 20 cent piece.

"It hovered for about two minutes ... flashing sporadically, before disappearing.

The woman said the light later reappeared, and then seemed to travel in a triangular formation high over the coastline.

"It was definitely not an aeroplane ... it was quite bizarre," says the woman.

She said the light could be seen on an off for about six minutes.

The local sightings have created a lot of interest in the community.

In the space of four days, local radio station 3GG has received 11 reports of similar sightings in the area.

The most recent sighting came from an Inverloch farmer, as he herded his cows on his property last Friday afternoon.

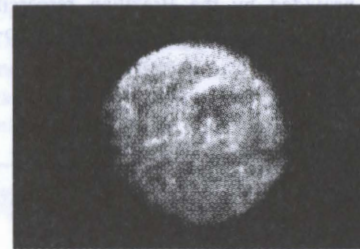
John Thompson, the UFO Research Society's South Gippsland district representative, says the society welcomes reports of unusual phenomena.

The Victorian UFO Research Society sightings line can be reached on (03) 9506 7080.

Sentinel Times 20.10.99

Herald Sun, Monday, November 15, 1999

Venus makes catch of the day



Venus: the fishermen's video.

A "UFO" filmed by tuna fisherman became the one that got away.

Believing they had reeled in an extraterrestrial, Danny Haub and mates learned yesterday their catch was heavenly but not alien.

The professional fishermen from Eden were about six nautical miles off Coffs Harbor, on the northern NSW coast, when they saw a strange object at 4am on October 28.

The moon-shaped object was "as bright as the sun" and seemed to

be thrusting back and forward about 30-50m above them.

Channel Seven dispatched a helicopter to meet Mr Haub and crew at Nelson Bay near Newcastle and flew them to its Sydney studios.

But there they met a spoilsport in the form of astronomer Geoffrey Wyatt, of Macquarie University's Southern Skies Observatory.

Mr Wyatt told the fishermen the "UFO" was Venus.

- ANDREW PROBYN

New planet a star turn

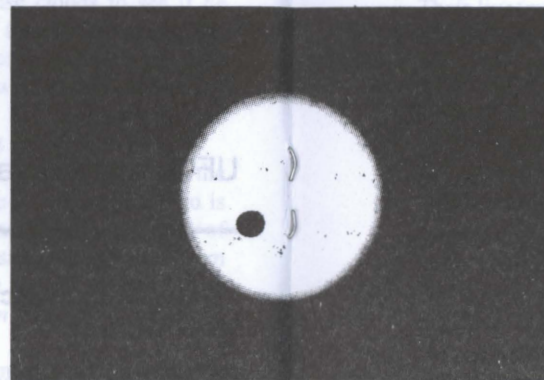
A STARTLING image of a planet bigger than Jupiter billions of kilometres out in space has confirmed what scientists could once only deduce by complex mathematics — there are planets beyond our solar system.

The planet's existence in the constellation Pegasus was discovered on November 5 by scientists searching space from the Keck Telescope on top of Hawaii's Mauna Kea.

They notified colleagues at Tennessee State University, which operates a cluster of remote-controlled telescopes in the Patagonia Mountains of Arizona.

Scientists there focused one automatic telescope on the star, and observed it dimming visibly as a planet crossed in front of it.

"This is the first independent confirmation of a planet," said Geoffrey



Far out: the newly found planet orbits its star.

Marcy, a professor of astronomy at the University of California at Berkeley.

"It also gives us the first-ever measure of the size of one of these planets."

Prof. Marcy's planet-hunting team has gathered mathematical evidence of 19 planets but

could only infer their existence by measuring the wobble of nearby stars caused by the gravity of unseen planets as they orbit.

That changed last week. Prof. Marcy and his colleagues were the first to detect a wobble in the star HD 209458, in the constellation PEGASUS

Their colleague in Arizona, astronomer Greg Henry, actually monitored the planet as it orbited the star.

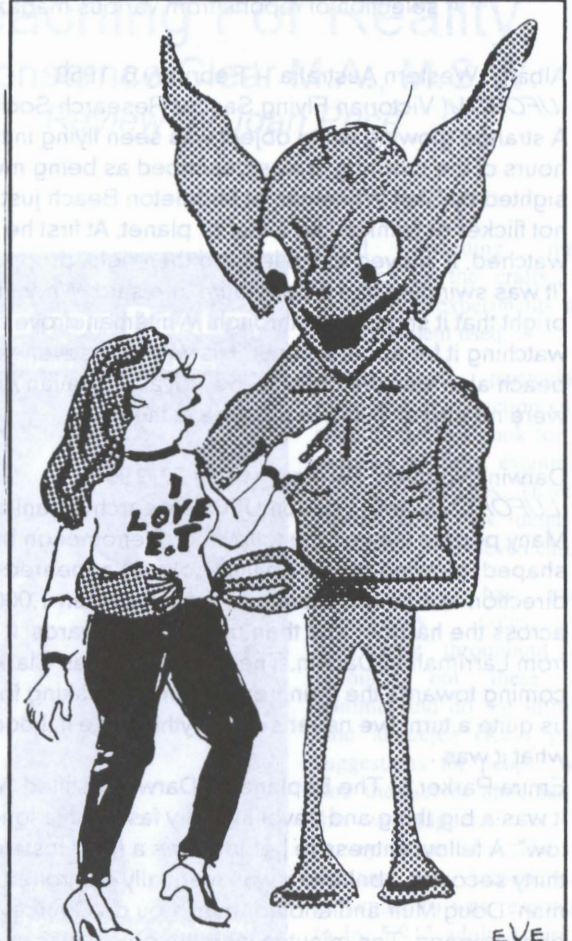
The star's radiance dimmed 1.7 per cent on November 7. On Thursday, it happened again, seemingly verifying the scientists' calculations that the planet orbits its star every 3.523 days.

Henry is predicting the same dimming on Thursday and November 22.

Prof. Marcy's team determined the planet to be a gas giant, similar to Jupiter, but its mass is just 63 per cent of Jupiter's while it is 60 per cent wider.

The star HD 209458 is 153 light years from Earth — more than a million billion kilometres.

"This is what we've been waiting for," said Prof. Marcy.



EVE

(Joan Creighton)

"But that was before I knew you were REAL!"

Quick!!



Tell VUFORS
(03) 9506 7080

THE EARLY YEARS

A selection of reports from various magazines published in the 1950s and 1960s

Albany, Western Australia - February 6, 1959

UFORUM (Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society)

A strange glowing white object was seen flying in the night sky over Albany in the early hours of the morning. It was described as being much brighter than a meteor and was first sighted by Stan Whiteman of Middleton Beach just after midnight. Mr Whiteman said it did not flicker or twinkle like a star or planet. At first he thought it was stationery but, as he watched, it moved to the left and then right, dropped and hovered.

"It was swinging like a pendulum", he said. When it went behind a cloud the light was so bright that it shone right through. Whiteman drove to the top of Mount Clarence and stood watching it for about an hour. His wife and seven-year-old son and several campers at the beach also saw the object. The Royal Australian Air Force base at Pearce said there were no aircraft flying in the area at the time.

Darwin, Northern Territory - July 27, 1961

LUFORO Bulletin (London UFO Research Organisation)

Many people viewed the following phenomenon between 7.55 p.m. and 8.40 p.m. A saucer-shaped, glowing object (bluish colour) appeared from a north-westerly or northerly direction at a height estimated to be between 1,000 - 2,000 feet. It described a wide circle across the harbour and then moved southwards. It practically "buzzed" a train travelling from Larimah to Darwin. The driver, Douglas Clarke, stated that he saw a "big ball of fire" coming towards the train from behind. Speaking for himself and his fireman, he said "It gave us quite a turn. I've never seen anything like it. I don't believe it was a comet, I don't know what it was."

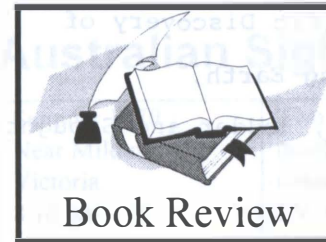
Emira Parker of The Esplanade, Darwin testified "We were all at the wharf when it appeared. It was a big thing and travelling very fast, with a long tail". She thought it was coming in "quite low". A fellow witness to her tale was a Mrs Hostalek who said "We watched it for probably thirty seconds. I believe it was manually controlled by the path it took". An experienced airman, Doug Muir and another man, Lou de Courcey were amongst those who witnessed the phenomenon. Ten minutes later the object was seen over Tennant Creek.

Santa Rita, Venezuela - October 6, 1961

The UFO Investigator (National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena)

In the past six months UFO close approaches have lead to one observer's death and have badly frightened other witnesses in the U.S.A. and South America. At Santa Rita, Venezuela a fisherman drowned when he and panic-stricken companions jumped from their boats as a huge, glowing object approached. At about 11.00 p.m. an enormous UFO appeared from the north, its glow lighting up the town. As it slowly crossed Lake Maracaibo, casting its glare on the fishing boats, dozens of terrified fishermen leaped overboard. One man, Bartolme Romero, went down in the frantic swim for safety. The others made shore unnerved by the encounter.

In Santa Rita alarmed inhabitants watched the strange object pass slowly over the city. The UFO was visible five minutes before it vanished to the south leaving a reddish, exhaust-like trail.



Reaching For Reality

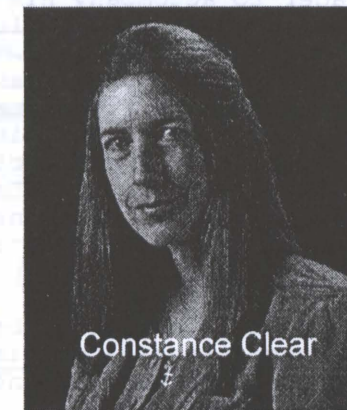
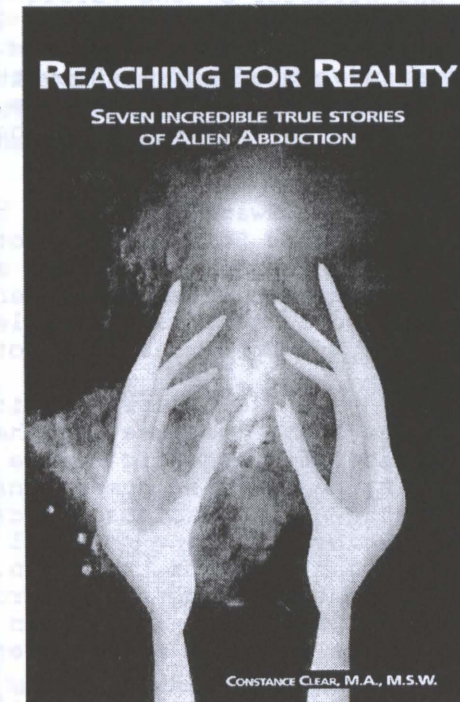
by Constance Clear M.A., M.S.W.

Review by Joan Price

This up-to-date and newly published book is an account of seven people living within a 200 mile radius of San Antonio (Texas), who had surgical experiments performed on them after being carried aboard U.F.Os. They sought help from Constance Clear, a professional therapist interested in such cases.

All seven had been experimented upon repeatedly for many years. Their lives were filled with fear and the awareness that they could do nothing to stop the experiments. Constance kept them and their stories entirely separate for some time until all detail she could recover from them was in hand. At their request a "Friday Night Group" was formed and they met for the first time. Kay and Lydia immediately recognised one another. They had met aboard a U.F.O. when Lydia's new-born child was taken from her and her screams brought Kay from another room to help Lydia try to keep her baby.

Five of the seven elected to undertake hypnosis to recover 'blocked out' memories of events. The accounts give much



detail including many sketches of the crafts, the beings, the experiments and the equipment used.

Those not particularly interested in abduction cases should read this book for the purpose of fully examining the many sketches. There is considerable 'new' detail to be studied in all seven cases.

The author has made explanatory notes of importance throughout the accounts but these are minimal and do not intrude. One abductee (Kay) gives suggestions for people who find themselves abducted in this way (appendix c). A survey entitled "Unusual Personal Experiences" (appendix b) was responded to by 5,947 adult American men and women, the results

of which is now known as the "The Roper Survey". This lists five things that, if any four of which have happened to you, you are an abductee whether you realise it or not.

I found this a well prepared book which could be a benchmark in this specialised area of research.

Publishers:
Consciousness Now, Inc.,
P.O. Box 15994,
San Antonio, TX 78212 U.S.A.



by Courtney Brown, Ph.D., Hodder and Stoughton,
by Wendy Wolfe.

This is an exciting and enthralling book, breaking new ground in the exploration of consciousness and scientific research in remote viewing, important for both scientists and the general reader alike.

Summer 1970
Near Mildura,
Victoria.
8.10 pm

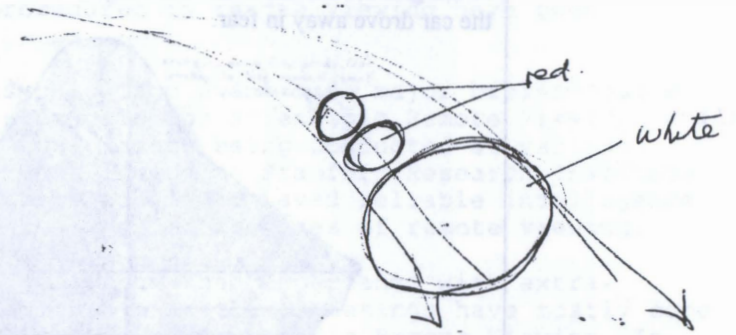
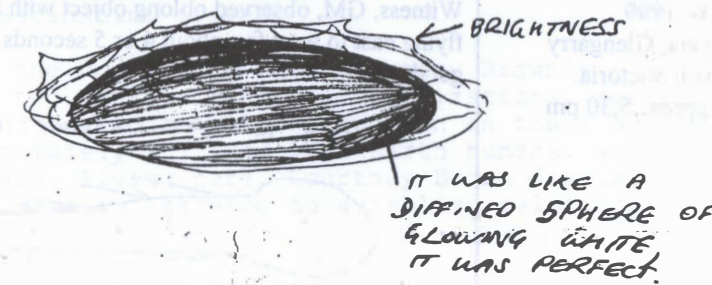
8-6- 1999
Tyers, Glengarry
road, Victoria.
Approx. 5,30 pm

Witness, GM, observed oblong object with a very bright white tail, flying east to west for about 4 or 5 seconds. Witness stated too fast to get details.

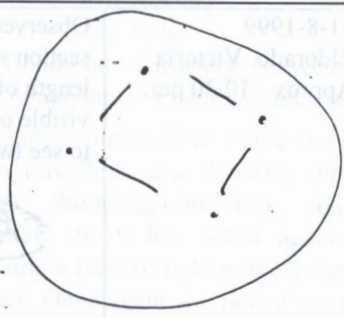
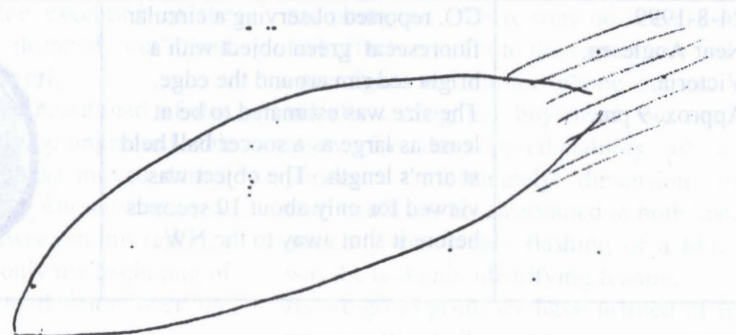
VERY BRIGHT. LIGHT WITH LONG TAIL



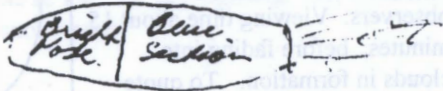
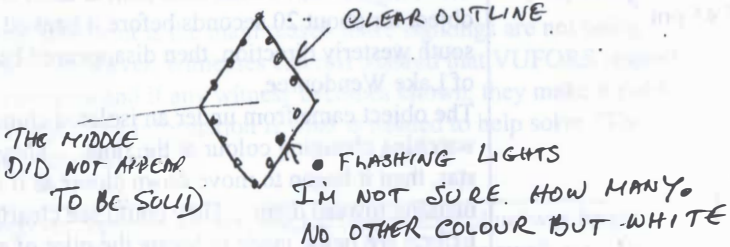
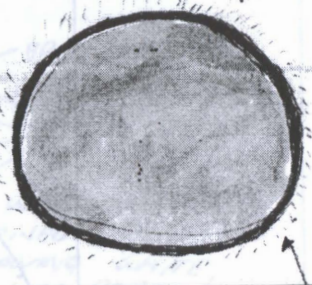
Australian Sighting Reports - continued

16-6-1999 Sale, VIC Approx 7 pm	<p>A witness ET. reported three spherical objects, a large white one and two smaller ones flying toward the horizon to the NE. The comments of the observer were, "This was an unexpected experience that I have not encountered before. It was a surprise and at first I thought it looked like a falling star, but the size and brightness of the light discounted this. It was beautiful. I did not mention it to anyone until someone mentioned it then I realized it was on the same day and at the same time so I shared my sighting. My concern is that I wish to remain anonymous"</p>  <p>This last statement is the main reason more sightings are not being reported. However, witnesses can rest assured that VUFORS respects these concerns and if any witness becomes known, they make it public themselves. The information is what is needed to help solve "The Riddle of the Skies"</p>
July, 1999 Yulara, NT. 5.45 pm	<p>An observer reported an oval shaped object, the colour was bright white. It sped from west to east. The size was of a small car. The sped was faster than anything the witness had ever observed. The experience left the witness scared.</p>  <p>IT WAS LIKE A DEFINED SPHERE OF GLOWING WHITE IT WAS PERFECT.</p> <p>Thanks to Keith Douglas for this report.</p>

Australian Sighting Reports - continued

10-7-1999 Sunshine, Victoria - Over Ballarat Road. 12 midnight.	<p>Four witnesses including two policemen observed four orange-red lights about magnitude (+1-0 astronomical terms). The objects were moving SW to SE at a distance of 50 distance from the observers. Viewing time about 15 minutes, before fading into clouds in formation. To quote one policeman, "that is freaky". One witness has an astronomical background and states, "those objects did not look normal and the police officers were alarmed as well".</p> 
4-8-1999 Ballarat, Victoria. 5.45 pm	<p>Two witnesses, F and KD, observed a silvery white disc shaped object about the size of a dollar coin held at arms length. They only saw the object for about 20 seconds before it banked into a controlled dive in a south westerly direction, then disappeared behind trees on opposite side of Lake Wendouree.</p> <p>The object came from under an isolated cloud which the witnesses were watching changing colour at the time. They thought at first it was a star, then it began to move down closer as if it was descending and banking toward them. They could see clearly that it had a bright tail. Efforts are being made to locate the pilot of a helicopter flying nearby at the time.</p> 

Australian Sighting Reports - continued

31-8-1999 Eldorado, Victoria. Approx. 10.30 pm.	Observer reported an oblong object with visible sections. Front section was bright rose in colour, second section was blue. The total length of the moon. It was flying horizontally from NW to SE and visible only for about 8 seconds. It was near enough for the observers to see two sections. 
2-9-1999 North Balwyn, Victoria. 11.10 pm	Member Francesca Curtis, reported a diamond white object about a third size of the moon. It flew slowly then descended behind trees. The speed was about the same as a light aircraft. It had small white lights flashing around. It may have divided into two, exactly the same size or else it was two objects which separated. 
24-8-1999 Near Anglesea, Victoria. Approx. 9 pm.	CO. reported observing a circular fluorescent green object with a bright red rim around the edge. The size was estimated to be at least as large as a soccer ball held at arm's length. The object was viewed for only about 10 seconds before it shot away to the NW. 

Thanks to Jim Owen, Northeastern Rep. who investigated this sighting.

Sighting Reports From Our South Eastern Representative John Thompson - Wonthaggi - VICTORIA.

Location: Inverlock, Victoria.
Date: Late September 1999
Time: 21.00 hrs.
Weather conditions: clear sky. No wind.
Moderate Temperature, Visibility:
Unrestricted.

Witness M was travelling in a westerly direction along the Wonthaggi/Inverlock Road towards the township at approx. 2100 hrs. At about 2kms from Inverlock M's attention was drawn to a sudden flash of blue light, such as that emitted by a flash on a camera, but the intensity was described as extremely brilliant and appeared to be only about 1 km away to the West ahead of her vehicle at about 30 degrees above the horizon and about 3000 feet. She stood beside her car for no more than about 5 seconds after which time a single flash of light appeared again approximately 2 kms to the back of her in a northerly direction. Also seconds later it reappeared in a south-east about half a kilometre from her location at a lower altitude. This incident was also witnessed by four other people. The size of the object compared with that of a medium four door sedan. No other specifications could be noted due to darkness.

No side effects were noted either during or after the episode with the exception of the mobile phone which "dropped out" and disconnected from the network.

In view of what you have heard/read of this brief account, one can only be impressed with the speed at which this object moved during the entire observation. Though accurate details are few and far between in this report, I was to find out this was only the beginning of a larger scenario about to develop over the coming weeks.

Location: Inverlock, Victoria.
Date: 10.10.1999
Time: 20.30 hrs.
Weather Conditions: Clear sky. No wind.
Moderate temperature. Visibility unrestricted.

In this instance witness M as in the last report was again travelling in a Westerly direction along the Wonthaggi/Inverlock road at approximately 20.30 hrs. when again she noticed a single flash of light in the distance in front of her. Once again she pulled her car to the side of the road and proceeded to use her mobile phone to ring her boyfriend back home only a few kms away. Within a few minutes he had arrived with a friend. They all met and watched in amazement, the flashing of the blue light. The incident was very similar to her first report with the light switching on and off within seconds and appearing rapidly in another location.

The most significant point was that at one stage the car was bathed in blue light from behind, which indicates the light was considerably close, as M's car has extremely dark tinted windows to reduce the summer sun glare. The duration of the incident was several minutes and was observed by several witnesses and eventually ended with the light just going out. There were no side effects, no EM effects relating to the cars at any time but once again the mobile phone cut out while initially calling her boyfriend, but one must allow for the unpredictability of mobile phones. Unfortunately, dimensions of the craft could not be ascertained in both instances and only the telltale flashing of a blue light was the real only identifying feature.

As we go to print, we have learned of further reports. We shall await the return of the forms to estimate worth and include them in the next Bulletin

Australian International UFO Flying Saucer Research Inc.

GPO Box 2004, Adelaide, South Australia, 5001

Registered by Australia Post.

Publication Number: PP 533632/00010

Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily the views of the publisher.

PARALOWIE – 24 AUGUST 1999

Frank Start, 65, Retired; Darren Niblett, 38 and Penelope Wickham, 30 – both police officers, had a 1 minute sighting from 7pm. The single orange, pumpkin shaped object was approximately 300 metres in altitude and 10 kilometres from the trio. It travelled "as fast as a plane" from north to south. "The object looked initially, in the distance, to be a flare but as it travelled towards us it looked like a large orange light as it was directly above looked like a fireball. Then, as it travelled over and off it looked like a disc. We were all like stunned mullets, even the 65 year old sceptic was left speechless. I'm really excited about it now, I've never seen a UFO before and have been waiting. My 20 month old son, Ben, and I were in the spa and we got out and waved."

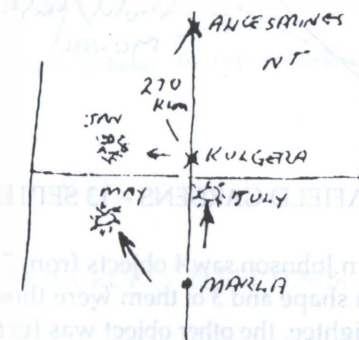


BANKSIA PARK – 30 AUGUST 1999

"I was about to enter my car when I thought I saw a falling star." is how 29 year old bookbinder Stuart Gordon's attention was attracted at 4:35am. The 10 minute sighting of a single white (occasionally flashing orange) object left Stuart feeling curious. The object moved from North East to South East in a zig-zagging manner over the Adelaide Hills. "It would flash on for 5 seconds and off for 5 seconds. The object was not moving from its position. I was not sure if it was a plane or a helicopter but only being one bright light and the unusual light flashing sequence I was curious and kept watching. The light went to a large gold flash dashing down with a loop and back again."

KULGERA FUEL STATION – 26 JULY 1999

Keith Douglass collated the stories of three separate groups of tourists that were chased by a UFO. "One group were surrounded by a light that seemed to go under the car – the car then stopped – all three groups were panic stricken." Other recent sightings in the area include 3 May 1999 where an orange light was seen heading north west from Marla and in January 1999 when an orange object went in a west direction over Kulgera, then went down behind some hills, still glowing orange.

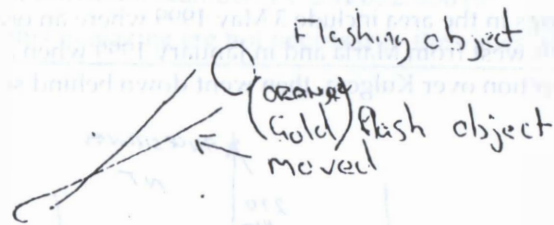


SALISBURY – ELIZABETH – 15 AUGUST 1999

Ben O'Brien, 26, a Technical Consultant sighted a single orange object from Main North Road between Salisbury and Elizabeth from 6:35pm on 15 August. "Jo was driving and we were on our way to a 6:45 appointment in Elizabeth when at the intersection of Saints Road and Main North Road, Salisbury Plains I glanced west and noticed an orange glow above Barry's Hardware store. There was a thin layer of cloud covering the whole sky that night and I initially thought the light was a star being refracted through the light cloud. I jokingly asked Jo if she wanted to see a UFO because at that point in time I thought it was a star. However, no other stars were visible at that time and as I looked at the object some more I realised it was moving, albeit very slowly. The object was only a few hundred feet off the ground and was close to the northern perimeter of the Parafield Airport circuit. I kept an eye on it as we travelled north and when we turned west onto Hogarth Road the object was still on my left, confirming it was not a star. I will concede that it may have been the heat beads in the garbage bag trick but having not seen one before I can't be sure. If that were the case I would have expected to see more fluctuations in altitude whereas the orange light appeared to hover.

The intensity of the light did vary also from a dull, almost colourless glow to an intense glow. The object was relatively small, from the initial observation point it seemed about the size of Venus but considering my distance from the object (approximately 1000-2000 metres) it was probably about 1 to 2 metres in diameter. I lost sight of it at approximately 6:43.

SIGHTINGS



PARAFIELD GARDENS – 13 SEPTEMBER 1999

34 year old welder, Ian Johnson saw 4 objects from 7:40pm. The red/white lights were circular in shape and 3 of them were thought to be no more than 4 kilometres from the sightee, the other object was further away. The objects were first spotted in the eastern skies where they remained stationary for a while. There were 3 other witnesses who saw 1 of the objects fly away from them, (further to the east) and another 2 passing directly over and then away until they got smaller and dimmer. "My wife and I went outside to say goodbye to my wife's mother and also to bring out car into the backyard. As I was walking to our car I looked up at the stars like I normally do. I noticed a star which was located in an easterly direction, it was a reddy white colour – I thought it was strange. I pointed it out to my wife. Suddenly we saw two more objects flying close together, coming towards us. At first we thought they were helicopters. They were the same colour as the first one that we thought was star. The height of them was the same as that of the light airplanes that were flying around. Suddenly they stopped what looked to be over Parafield Airport. Both objects just hovered in one spot. Before they stopped the spread apart so they were further away from each other. They seemed to stand still. At the same time as these two were flying in, the first one took off toward Mount Lofty. I don't know exactly the speed but it moved much quicker than airplanes such as QANTAS.

FLYING TOWARDS US

STANDING STILL

SIGHTINGS

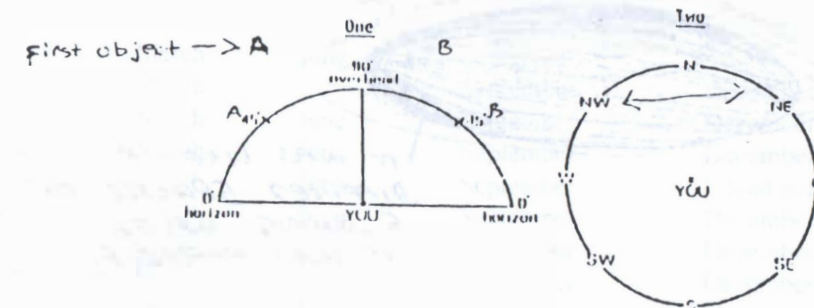
PARAFIELD GARDENS – 13 SEPTEMBER 1999

Office Administrator Beverley Bugg saw 2 yellowish objects from her house on 13 September. The sighting commenced at 7:30pm and lasted for approximately minutes. The round objects were in a north easterly direction and were witnessed by 3 others.

(same shared) - Smaller one broke away & disappeared upwards

WOODCROFT – 22 SEPTEMBER 1999

Eugene Morris, 53 saw 2 objects in a north – north easterly direction from 4:55am for 5 minutes. The first object was the same colour as a star but the second object (referred to as the 'pursuit object') had flashing lights. "The first object was moving at medium speed, when I noticed the second object coming from a westerly direction. Both appeared to be on the same flight path. When the second object caught up with the first object, for one to two seconds, there was a bright flash like when a camera picture is taken, only this was on a larger scale. The second aircraft did not alter course, I can only assume the first object moved in a northerly direction as it was the first object I lost sight of. I can not describe the objects, only that the first object appeared to be similar to a star. The second object seemed to be some sort of military aircraft, such as a jet fighter with flashing lights.



SIGHTINGS



YULARA, NT - JULY 1999

Cheki Nolan, a 27 year old guest relations officer spotted a single, bright white object travelling East from the Olgas over Yulara. The oval shaped object took around 30 seconds to traverse the sky. "My hairs springd up on my back, so fast. When I noticed it in the sky it was the brightness that attracted me. I thought I was about to admire Venus but then I realised it picked up in speeds that I have never seen ever! I turned my whole body with the light just to follow it, the speed almost scared me, but I couldn't take my eyes off it as the light then dissolved in brightness, then increased again, but it never decreased in speed and it definitely wasn't a craft with wings. As I watched it still travelling across the morning sky it disappeared on the 50° angle of the horizon and it was gone."

Courtesy: Matt Pearce - UFORAR



SOCIETY NEWS

The VUFORS Sightings Report Line
is AVAILABLE 24 hours a day - 7 days a week.

(03) 9506 7080

Please report your sightings to this number.

Note: This is NOT a 1900 service. Your call is charged at standard call rates.

ITEMS FOR SALE

AT THE DECEMBER 6th DISCUSSION EVENING

- * "UFOs...THE REAL STORY" - Stanton Friedman's comprehensive CD-ROM. Excellent value at \$ 35.00. Normal retail price \$ 49.00.
This item is now available by mail within Australia for \$ 38.00.
- * VUFORS LAPEL BADGES - only \$ 5.00 each.
- * VUFORS PENS - only \$ 1.00 each.

Several new books will be on sale at marked prices.

Back issues of *The Australian UFO Bulletin* will no longer be sold at our Discussion Evenings. They are available from VUFORS by mail at a cost of \$ 5.00 each, including postage, (US\$ 5.00 outside Australia).

The following issues are currently available :-

1989				December
1991	March	June	September	
1992	March		September	December
1993	March	June	September	December
1994	March	June	September	December
1995	March	June	September	December
1996	March	June	September	December
1997	March	June	September	December
1998	March	June	September	December
1999	March	June	September	



MEMBER
International Committee for U.F.O. Research
P.O. Box 1043, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189, Australia

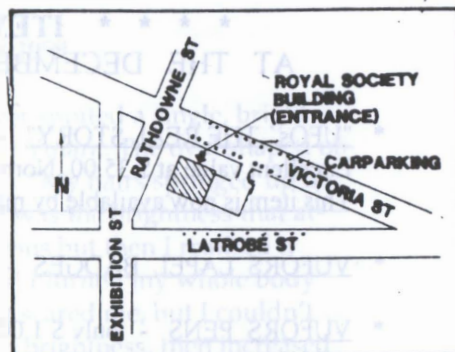
DISCUSSION NIGHT

For Your Diary

DECEMBER	6 th , 1999	DISCUSSION
MARCH	6 th , 2000	"
JUNE	5 th , 2000	"
SEPTEMBER	4 th , 2000	A.G.M

TIME 8.00 p.m.
WHERE The Royal Society of Victoria
Victoria Street, Melbourne
(SEE MAP)

ENTRY	NON-MEMBER	\$5.00
FEE	ASSOCIATE MEMBER	\$2.00
	FULL MEMBER	FREE ENTRY



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

V.U.F.O.R.S.

FULL MEMBERSHIP:	\$20	- Magazine - Free Meeting Entry - Free Supper
ASSOCIATE MEMBER:	\$15	- Magazine Only
OVERSEAS:	\$US20	- Magazine Only
NON MEMBER:	\$5	- Meeting Entry Only

SOCIETY HISTORY

1957

At this point perhaps it may be opportune to present a brief history of the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society.

The earliest U.F.O. group to form in Australia was the "Australian Flying Saucer Bureau" under the direction of Edgar Jarrold and Andrew Tomas, in the early 1950s. At the same time, Fred Stone inaugurated the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" in Adelaide. After approximately two years the Bureau closed down and was regarded as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" under Andrew Tomas. This shortly broke from Adelaide and became the "Australian U.F.O. Investigation Centre" with Dr. Clifford at its head until 1958, when the Presidency passed to Dr. Lindtner.

The "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society (Victorian Branch)" was formed on the 17th February, 1957 as a branch of the "Australian Flying Saucer Research Society" and later that year was re-organised as the "Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society" with Mr. Peter E. Norris L.L.B. as President. In 1968 the name was again altered – this time to the "Victorian U.F.O. Research Society".

During this time, the Society has published various papers and is probably best known for its publication Australian Flying Saucer Review, curtailed in 1972 due to high costs and subsequently superseded by the Australian U.F.O. Bulletin and at one stage sponsored and produced a quarter-hour program on a Melbourne radio station under the heading of "The Truth Behind Flying Saucers".

In 1978, following the resignation of Mr. Peter Norris the current executive, Mrs. Judith Magee, Messrs. Paul Norman and Clive Yates, was placed in control, ensuring the continuing prosperity of V.U.F.O.R.S. The Society has held a dispassionate attitude on U.F.O.s, claiming it is a scientific problem deserving closer attention. It has also met regularly in general meetings and discussion nights and maintained the largest U.F.O. library in the southern hemisphere. Unfortunately, the loss of books, probably due to the high cost of postage has forced V.U.F.O.R.S. to discontinue this service to members.

Membership of this Society – which maintains the largest membership of any U.F.O. organisation in the Southern Hemisphere – is open to all who are genuinely interested in the subject.

THE AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN

Print Post Approved
PP338968/0023



**SURFACE
MAIL**

POSTAGE
PAID
MOORABBIN
VICTORIA
AUSTRALIA

FL

A.F.U
PO BOX 11027
8-60011
NORRKOPING SWEDEN

IF UNDELIVERABLE RETURN TO:

THE VICTORIAN U.F.O. RESEARCH SOCIETY
PO BOX 1043
MOORABBIN, VIC., 3189
AUSTRALIA